From: tidwell@tekelec.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/18/01 7:34am
Subject: microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov

Just upgraded to windows XP and wanted to share some concerns I have as
a consumer.

During the upgrade process from Windows 98 MS informed me that Java
would no longer work with my new system and must be removed for the
upgrade. It also informed me that my Adaptec CD software would have to
be removed as well.

While the Java issue makes me laugh the Adaptec issue IS SERIOUS. The
reason being the software WILL WORK ON WINDOWS 2000 BUT NOT XP. XP uses
the EXACT same 'kernal' as Windows 2000. So to use the analogy of a car
I should be able to use the same gas but now I have to visit a different
gas pump for CDs!

On further examination I find that MS is making it difficult for me to
work with MP3 but PUSHING their own WMA format for CD data.
I COULD NOT EVEN READ my Quicken data from a CD-RW disk because XP
changed the driver.

Now for the cleancher...

MS HAS LOCKED DOWN ACCESS TO DRIVERS. IF YOU WRITE A DRIVER FOR MS
THEY HAVE TO APPROVE IT NOW. So now unless I do a deal with MS my
driver would NOT GET USED by the average consumer.

MS will use this to force upon consumers hardware and media that the
consumers will have NO CHOICE on.

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE stop this. The American software market will go to
Japan or Europe if the bright minds in this country are not given access
to the OS.

MS was born on 3rd base and wants everyone to think they got there by
hard work. Well if MS is TRULY a competitive company then shouldn't
their application divisions have to play by the same rules as everyone
else?

MS only has to hit it out of the infield for THEM to get a homerun. For
everyone else writing software you have to swing blind folded and HOPE
you hit it.

I see no way for a software company to make money writing software that
run on Windows. MS continues to dump on the market and sit on their
cash. If an oil company was in the car buinsess would you let them give

away CARS?

Then how can an OS company give away applications while still making
money selling them?

Why can't everyone see that if Ford and Exxon where the same company and
DESTROYED ALL THE OTHER ONES that it would be a BAD THING.

Operating sytems and application software SHOULD BE considered seperate
markets. IF REVENUE IS GAINED.

MAKE MS GIVE AWAY EITHER THE APPLICATIONS OR THE OS. MAKE THEM PICK.

No other software company can give away free code without someway to
make a profit.

Sincerely,
Ed Tidwell
Raleigh, NC